

VITAL SIGNS



VOL I No. 6

Naval Regional Medical Center, Orlando, Florida

1 May 1979

"....AND IT CAME TO PASS"

In the very near future, the military personnel functions of the Naval Regional Medical Center, Orlando, will be implemented under PASS. We can already hear the question reverberating along the ramp "WHAT IN THE WORLD IS PASS?" PASS is the Pay/Personnel Administrative Support System (PASS). The PASS concept involves a consolidation, co-location, and automation of pay, personnel, and passenger transportation functions of ALL commands in this area under ONE roof! The activity which will eventually house ALL of the service records (except recruit records) and be responsible for the majority of personnel functions is the Personnel Support Branch Office (PSBO) which will be located in Building 2004 at the Naval Training Center. Present plans call for the Navy Finance Office to remain where they are. The Personnel Support Branch Office will perform those personnel functions directly related to military personnel records administration and military personnel accounting incident to the receipt and transfer of military personnel, separation from active duty, as well as reenlistments.

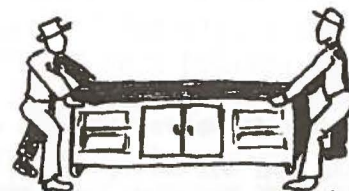
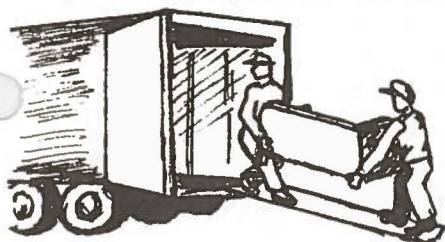
When the service records of NRMCC staff are moved, we will also transfer one MSC officer, LT Gerald E. PARRISH, MSC, USN, who will become the NTC Personnel Support Branch Officer. NRMCC will also furnish two civilian billets and three military billets. HM2 Anthony FERGUSON, USN, will be the NRMCC PASS Coordinator and will be physically located at the Regional Medical Center.

The PASS negotiations have been in progress since last December and every effort is being exerted to insure this change-over of service records, personnel and personnel functions will be accomplished smoothly and with as little inconvenience to the staff members as is possible.



LT G. E. PARRISH

The PASS concept will be incorporated Navy-wide and has been tested by three pilot areas: San Diego, Washington, and Norfolk. With any new program, there are bound to be growing pains so we ask for your full support as we enter this period of change. The end result will be fast, efficient service, and who knows, maybe the computers will even give you a SMILE!



Connie B.

American Red Cross Needs You!

The American Red Cross has launched their spring drive for new volunteers. They need YOU to be on their team. The Volunteer Orientation for newcomers will be held on 10 May at the Naval Regional Medical Center in the Red Cross Lounge, Bldg. 3002, beginning at 0830. For further information, call X4654 or X4611.

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Congratulations to our
new Master Chief

MMCM H. T. HILL, USN

WHOOOIZZIT??



DO YOU KNOW THIS STAFF MEMBER??
(Answer on Page 8)

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CAPTAIN ROMANO HONORED

Captain "C" Victor Romano, MC, USNR, was recently honored when he was selected by the Alumni Committee, Florida Southern College at Orlando, as the recipient of the FSC Outstanding Citizen Award for 1979.

Captain Romano was unanimously selected for this award because of his contributions of time, talents and concern as evidenced by his involvement in the community and college life and as a dedicated Naval Medical Officer.

The plaque was presented at the annual banquet at the college and Captain Zimble was given the honor of making the presentation.



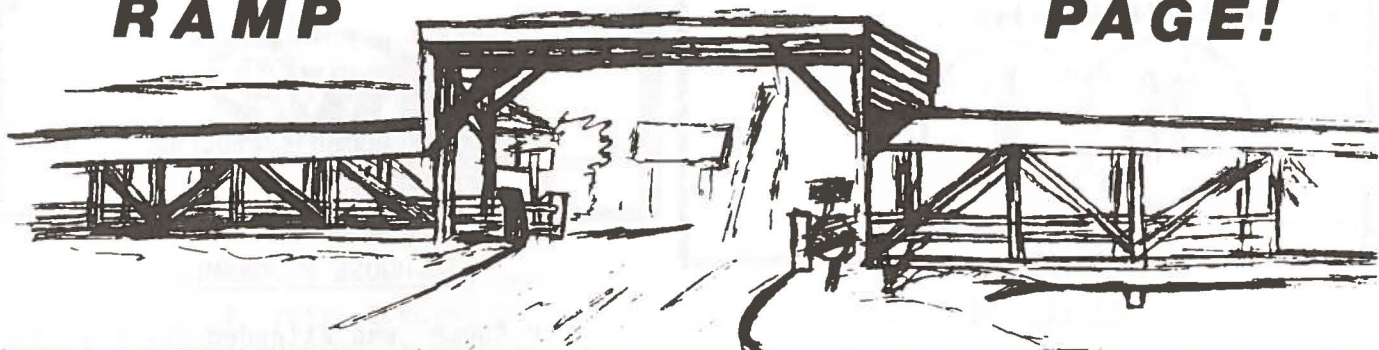
Captain Zimble presenting the 1979 FSU
Outstanding Citizen Plaque to Captain Romano.

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RAMP

PAGE!



By HA Eileen Kehoe, USN

How Can We Conserve More Energy?

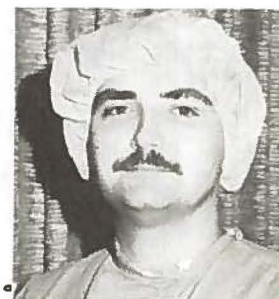


HM1 Welch, Medical Repair: To secure all unnecessary equipment when not in use. Even when we are working on the electrical equipment, we avoid excessive running time and this helps cut down on the electricity.

Ann Hutto, Laboratory Service: As far as I know, we are doing everything we can to conserve energy. For instance, in bacteriology alone, we shut off the air conditioners when we leave. We also turn off our bacteriology incinerators and there is no equipment in micro that runs unnecessarily. In the rest of the lab, as far as I know, they turn off all the major equipment that is not in use at 1600.



Joe Callender, Respiratory Therapy: I read in the POD where it would be mandatory to maintain 80 degree temperatures in all work spaces. I think the patients require cooler temperatures and it should be fluctuated for them. I have seen it fluctuated for staff but not for patients. Electrical equipment should be shut down during hours other than high-usage hours. We have a blood gas machine that is equipped with an automatic shut down if not used within a 2 hour period. A lot of the machines should have this built-in energy saving feature.



HM2 Glascock, CSSR: Primarily, I think a shuttle service from base housing to the hospital would save on gas and help the energy crisis. I know a lot of people would pay a fee for shuttle service instead of \$10 a week for gas for the car.

the Family Line



By CAPT C. VICTOR ROMANO, MC, USNR

TRI-SERVICE MEETING

The Department of Family Practice recently attended the Tri-Service Meeting of the Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians (USAFP) at Jekyll Island, Georgia. LT Scott Condie was re-elected as Secretary-Treasurer; LCDR Larry Johnson was appointed as Chairman of the Student and Resident Affairs; and CAPT Romano will remain on the Board of Directors. The meeting was hosted by the Family Practice Services, Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon, Georgia, and was very productive. Not only did we participate in the Continuing Medical Education Seminars, but varied problems encountered by other Family Practice Units were freely discussed and ideas and suggestions were exchanged. From conversation with other service members, especially Navy Family Physicians, our Family Practice Service in Orlando is highly regarded and greatly requested as a duty station. It appears that this has only been possible due to the dedication and loyalty of our staff.

I was extremely proud to hear the fine comments made regarding our Family Practice Service and I assured all present that not only will we continue to be outstanding in the performance of our duty but made it quite clear that our units are the best in the Navy. When asked why I felt our staff performed so well, my answer was simply, pride and complete involvement by all in the job we are doing.

Family Line "QUOTES"

"Victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory however long and hard the road may be; for without victory there is no survival."

Sir Winston Churchill, 13 May 1940



Federal Women's Program

By Carolyn Smith, NRMC's FWPM

IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS

For those who attended the last two programs, I am sure you will agree, the program on "Child Abuse," presented by Dr. Hegert, was most informative.

Captain's Call covered a variety of topics ranging from traffic, progress report on the new hospital, civilian evaluations, and a report from the Personnel Management Self-Evaluation Committee. The Captain also mentioned that he will invite Mrs. Phyllis Witherspoon, the new Civilian Personnel Officer for Navy Orlando, to attend one of our meetings. The next Captain's Call will be in July.....so get your questions in early.

The In-House Program for May will be by LCDR Carlton on the "Heimlich Maneuver."

ATTABOYS

The following staff personnel deserve special recognition for outstanding academic achievement for receiving Bachelor degrees from Florida Southern College during commencement exercises held 29 April at the campus in Lakeland:

HMC Andrew Bureman, B.A., cum laude,
Political Science
HMC Johnny Edgmon, B.S. Business Administration
HM1 Oscar Salinas, B.A. Psychology
HM2 John Fausset, B.S. Biology
HM2 Stephen Foster, B.S. Biology

Congratulations to our newSenior ChiefHMCS T. D. CRISP, USN

NURSING**SERVICE**

CDR N. J. Stewart, NC, USN

LCDR MILLIE JOHNSON, NC, USN

I would like to take this opportunity to give a very special person the recognition she so greatly deserves. LCDR Millie Johnson entered the Navy on 7 January 1959. Her dedicated service has been enjoyed by the Naval Hospital, Camp Lejeune, the MSTS Ship Simon B. Buckner, the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, the Naval Hospital, Orlando, the Naval Hospital, Naples, Italy. She returned to Orlando in 1972, and will be retired from this command on 1 July 1979.

LCDR Johnson has said that every day she has spent in the Navy has been a good day. There have been days when she has been so tired, she thought she could not take another step..... but she wouldn't trade a single day in the Navy for a day anywhere else.

LCDR Johnson wrote this article entitled "Our Duty" in 1974 and wishes to share it with our staff.

OUR DUTY

The voice of duty speaks for every individual. Duty may be humble, but it is never trivial.

Our duty signifies our place in the universe for major laws of the universe are service, justice and love, and duty serves as the foundation of these.

Duty is the basis of service toward others and of benefit for one's self. Without duty there can be neither sustenance nor health, neither justice nor friendship, neither knowledge nor peace.

We as nurses have assumed a grave and overwhelming duty, that of the care of the sick and aged, the injured and the enfeebled, the lonely and the heartsick. Whereas medicine has added years to man's life, ours is to add life to those years.

May our duties continue to evoke zealous devotion and may we give a yes answer to those summonses directed to us.

Someone once said: "The evening of life brings with it it's lamp." Let us serve as the lamp to the evening of those in our care.

Millie Johnson, 1974

Good luck to you, LCDR Millie Johnson, and a great big "WELL DONE" from all of us.

We're Sorry You're Leaving!

LT V. M. Mayo, NC, to NavHosp, Beaufort
 LT D. E. Walke, NC, to NRMHC, Philadelphia
 HM1 J. D. Marquis to OCS, Newport
 HM3 R. Preston to NRMHC, SDIEGO
 HMC A. G. Bureman to 2D, FSSG, Camp Lejeune
 HM3 R. W. Cannady to civilian life
 HN J. B. Holland to civilian life
 HM2 W. Griggs to civilian life

Congratulations To Our Reenlistee

HM2 M. W. Dally, USN
 Outpatient Service

We're Glad You're Here!

LCDR C. Evans, NC, from NRMHC, GLAKES.
 LCDR W. E. Tumblin, CHC, from NavSta, Norfolk
 LT M. Williams, MSC, from NavHosp, Port Hueneme
 HM2 L. E. Tamayo from NRMHC, Subic Bay
 HM3 D. E. Porter from NSHS, Bethesda
 HN B. A. Hall from HCS, GLAKES
 HR D. J. Harrington from HCS GLAKES
 HN D. F. Parrish from NRMHC, Yokosuka
 HMC T. L. Mastin from NOSA, Yorktown
 HMC R. W. Moore from 3rd FSSG, Okinawa
 HM3 C. E. Tillie from NRMHC, Portsmouth
 HM1 R. P. Edmonson from USS Saratoga
 DT2 D. E. Hackett from 1st Marine Brigade, Kaneohe
 HA D. M. Gintz from HCS, GLAKES
 HN L. K. Williams from HCS, GLAKES
 HM3 R. Lamb from NavHosp, Key West



Chaplain's

Comments

By LCDR I. O. CARTEE, CHC, USNR

EASTER HAS COME AND GONE, OR HAS IT?

This year's Easter Day celebration has come and gone, but the celebration of Easter goes on. What good news! A more impressive evidence of Easter than the empty tomb was what happened in the lives of Jesus' followers. Those men and women, defeated, discouraged and disillusioned, were transformed into a dynamic group with unshakable faith and indomitable hope. What has been happening during the past two thousand years in the lives of millions of people is the continuing miracle of Easter. To some people, Jesus is a memory. To others, He is a presence. To the unbeliever, Jesus is just a figure in time. To the believer, He is a timely figure, the Lord of life. The eyes of unbelief may see an empty tomb, but the eyes of faith see a resurrection. May we all know what it is to be a believer that we may know the power of His resurrection in our lives day by day. This year's Easter Day celebration may be past, but may we forever be caught up in its spirit and meaning for our lives.

CRA Spring Picnic

The Civilian Recreation Association Spring Picnic was held Friday, 20 April. There was a big turn-out and the CRA Committee would like to thank everyone for making it such a great success. We plan on having more functions in the future and look forward to meeting everyone again.

(Editor's Note: We think the CRA Committee Members all deserve a heartfelt Attaboy from all the members of the Staff for their detailed planning and hard work that made this outstanding picnic possible. The food was sumptuous! What a delightful break in the work day!)

PIPE



NINE

HMCM J. H. PHILLIPS, USN

SPOUSE DUTY

The basic policy of the Navy is that married service couples will be assigned together whenever and wherever possible. To be considered, you must meet the criteria: (1) Requests must be based on actual marriage. (Engagements do not count.) (2) Married service couples shall not be subjected to family separations more severe than other married couples. (3) Neither spouse shall be excused from any assignment for which he or she is eligible, including duty overseas. Decisions relating to family planning, reenlistment and career development cannot be based on the assumption that COMNAV-MILPERSCOM will guarantee a joint assignment.

At the present time, there are 1,407 members of the Hospital Corps who are married to other HM's. This constitutes an assignment problem. Considering the diverse manning needs of commands and sea/shore rotation policy for personnel, the possibilities for separation are great, probably unavoidable for those seeking full Navy careers. However, our HM detailers work hard to keep this separation to a minimum. All members should include marital status on an updated duty preference card. Our detailers have been very successful in their effort to keep married Hospital Corps members together and, with a little cooperation of the individuals, this trend should continue. Plan ahead, get the real facts from your Career Counselor or the Command Master Chief.

Birthdays

CRA BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO: Holland Wilderson on 1 May; Virginia Small on 2 May; Richard Cohen on 7 May; Gloria Carter on 9 May; Lovie Tompkins on 18 May; Lois Rogers on 19 May; Mary M. and Mary N. Ramsey on 27 May.



ASK THE SKIPPER



CAPT J. A. ZIMBLE, MC, USN

I am pleased to report that my remarks in last month's "Vital Signs" concerning my perception of "abject apathy" among the staff was totally unwarranted. Subsequent to publication of that observation, I received four letters. One letter and portions of one of the others are inappropriate for publication and I therefore selected an alternative communique. I have selected the below questions for my comment in this medium:

Dear Skipper: I am a resident of BEQ 3129. I haven't been here very long, but I just could not help but notice that the Housekeeping Service takes care of BEQ 3001, which is suppose to be a petty officers' barracks, but there are HN's, HA's, and even HR's, living there. This I do not understand! Question: Why doesn't Housekeeping clean BEQs 3129, 3128, and 3132? Not the rooms, but passageways and the heads at least.

Question: Why are inspections being held more often?

Question: Will there be more supplies in the future or will they become finite?

Question: The psychological effect of the placement of the barracks is the cause of low morale. In my opinion, the place is like being in solitary confinement, especially to those tenants who do not have a car or bicycle. I find that most Corpsmen at this command are less depressed than they are angry.

Question: Why is it that the female Corpsmen are placed on the other side of the base? Why aren't male corpsmen placed over there also? I find this discriminatory!!!

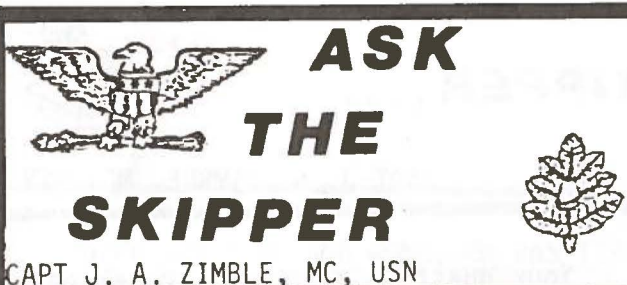
Answers: Whew! You sure squeezed lots of questions in your letter. Hopefully, I can squeeze all the answers in this column. The answers would have been available to you had you but asked the questions at the BEQ residents meeting which I attended. Since I plan to be present at such meetings at least quarterly, please try to arrange your schedules accordingly.

Your question regarding housekeeping sounds extremely similar to one I hear at home. My answer, regretfully, is also similar. My personal budget does not permit a housekeeper for my wife and the hospital budget does not permit a housekeeper for the BEQ residents. In fact, we are indeed fortunate to be able to make the services of one housekeeper available part time for one of the BEQ's. It seems reasonable to me to utilize those services for the most senior BEQ. The HN's, HA's, and even HR's who were only transiently billeted in BEQ 3001 have, to my knowledge, now been permanently assigned elsewhere.

More inspections are being held as a result of a recommendation made by the BEQ Management Team who inspected us from 19 to 21 March 1979. A total of ten recommendations, including the availability of adequate cleaning supplies, were submitted. LT Rosenbaum assures me that all the recommendations have been discussed with the BEQ residents and that all will be implemented.

The psychologic effect of inadequate quarters is certainly appreciated. This command continues to explore all avenues of resolution with higher authority. Unfortunately, all good solutions require time and money. I earnestly solicit your patience and understanding, and promise that I shall earnestly try to upgrade your living conditions to the best of my ability.

Finally, regarding your last question, you are absolutely right..... we do discriminate between the sexes. Since common heads are inappropriate for nondiscriminate unisex billeting, we have asked the Naval Administrative Command for assistance. Despite limited BEQ space on the other side of Lake Baldwin, the CO of NAC was able to provide for Corpwave quarters. Were there adequate BEQ facilities for all our personnel, I would be
(Continued on Page 8)



(Continued from Page 7)
the first to initiate demolition procedures for our blighted BEQ's.

COMMENT: "You say you are lonely up there -- well, here is one (problem) for you to cure. Active Duty in uniform should be able to go to the head of the lines or be taken first, but it doesn't work that way. The Family Practice Clinic, Ortho, and X-ray have been taking dependents first (most of the time). I wasted three and a half hours trying to get seen. This should have taken the maximum of one hour. Time I could have spent getting my work done. You say morale is down, well you're ... right. The staff here at NRMC is being treated very lousy and should have better privileges. After all, I feel we deserve it.

Signed "A Very Disgruntled Corpsman"

CO: Current policy calls for head of the line privileges at sick call for staff in uniform. Since I don't have your name, it is very difficult for me to determine why the policy was unsuccessful in your case. However, I would like to take this opportunity to report that a brand new policy is in the mill. Prior to receiving your memo, I had directed the Chief of Family Practice to prepare a plan whereby all members of the NRMC staff, married and single, would be enrolled with a designated physician. When this plan is implemented, I expect that the benefits will be three-fold. First, "military sick call" at the hospital will be eliminated. Any member of the staff requiring medical attention will contact his or her assigned physician for appropriate and timely evaluation and treatment. Secondly, the quality of care should improve since a single physician would be cognizant of the total health status of the individual staff member. Finally, "curbstone" or "rampside" consultation and treatment without the availability of the health

record, with that practice's potential for misuse and abuse, will be avoided. I am happy to report that with Captain Romano and Lieutenant Black's interest and cooperation, the new plan should be ready for review and implementation very soon.

HMC JOHNNY EDGMON SELECTED TO RECEIVE THE SENIOR ENLISTED LEADERSHIP AWARD



HMC Edgmon

HMC Johnny D. EDGMON, USN, Chief of the NRMC Medical Repair Branch, has been selected as the recipient of the Semi-Annual Senior Enlisted Leadership Award. To be eligible for the award, the staff member must be a Petty Officer First Class, Chief Petty Officer, or Senior Chief Petty Officer. The award is given for the ability to recognize and solve problems, resourcefulness, judgment and managerial skill. Chief Edgmon was selected by a board made up of Chiefs of Service and the command's Master Chief Petty Officers.

WHOOOIZZIT?



HMC

J. E. STOCKBERGER,

USN

Assistant Chief

Human Resource Management Service